The BRITISH LUTHERAN

CONTENTS

	Page
1. Key Words: SANCTIFICATION	2
2. The Apology	3
3. Faith at Work: a Stage Manager	4
4. Taff to Tyne	6
5. 1959 Synod Report	8
6. News	10
7. Church Extension Fund ...	11
8. Our Father's World	12

LUTHERAN HOUR SUPPLEMENT

May 1959 Vol. IV, No. 5

INFORMATION, ARTICLES, ANNOUNCEMENTS

Issued by

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Sanctification

"Santification" is a much misunderstood term.

Human beings, judging by externals, think of a sanctified life as one which evidences such qualities as moral purity, honesty, philanthropy, etc. and they assume that, since such qualities are demanded by God's Law and are praised by men, they will also be acceptable and pleasing to God. "But God looketh on the heart", I Sam. 16:7, and says that "without faith it is impossible to please Him", Heb. 11:6, and that "faith worketh by love", Gal. 5:6.

Thus, two persons may do exactly the same thing required in God's Law. The one does it because it is required and fears the punishment of failing to do it, or desires the reward of doing it; the other does it from love and gratitude to God for the completely undeserved gift of eternal life. Though they both appear the same, only the latter is living a God-pleasing, sanctified life. Sanctification lies primarily, not in what we do, but in why we do it.

Since God says that we cannot earn, or bargain for, His blessings, any thought of meriting His favour through our efforts to live according to His Law are detestable pride and presumption which destroy the very nature of a good work.

A sanctified person, therefore, is one who has been justified by faith and responds with a life of gratitude to God. That is the answer to the question put at the conclusion of the last Key Word: "Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?" "Faith, if it hath not works, is dead." James 2:17. "He that abideth in Me, and I in Him, the same bringeth forth much fruit." John 15:5. Faith moves a Christian to love and gratitude, causing him to resist sin and to live a God-pleasing life, thus helping him to become a better husband or wife, a better parent or child, a better person.

Arnold E. Rakow

The Apology of the Augsburg Confession

"We are prepared to confer amicably in order that the dissension, by God's help, may be done away and brought back to one accordant religion", the Lutherans wrote to the Emperor in 1530. They took the first step to restore unity in the church when they presented the Augsburg Confession in 1530.

The Emperor responded by appointing twenty leading Roman Catholic theologians to draw up a reply. Their first draft was so unreasonable that he refused to consider it. The final document, two months later, the Emperor approved and demanded that the Lutherans should subscribe to it after hearing it read. When the Lutherans asked for a copy of the document for study, the Emperor refused and threatened loss of "life, goods, and honour" if his demand were not met by April 1531.

On the basis of notes taken during the reading of the Roman Catholic Confutation, Philip Melanchthon, Luther's co-worker, prepared a defence of Lutheran teaching as set forth in the Augsburg Confession. A private document, it was later revised and accepted by the church as the Apology of the Augsburg Confession.

The tone of the Apology is moderate. "We have most zealously sought peace", its conclusion states, "and still most eagerly desire it, provided only we are not forced to blaspheme and deny Christ." It is an eloquent Scriptural vindication of the Augsburg Confession and, like it, defends the central doctrine of justification by faith alone. In general terms, it follows the sequence of the Augustana and treats such issues as "The Church", "Justification by Faith", "The Number and Use of the Sacraments", "The Political Order, "The Cause of Sin", "The Invocation of the Saints", "Both Kinds (Bread and Wine) in the Lord's Supper".

My Faith at Work

by

A STAGE MANAGER

MISS CHRISTINA LAWTON

Formerly Stage Manager
Cambridge Arts Theatre
Cambridge

This may come as a surprise, but I have found it easier to be a Christian when working in the theatre than in any of the other jobs I have known.

Few Prejudices in the Theatre

The reason may well be that the theatre people I have met have seldom been surprised at anything anyone may say or do, hence tend to have very few prejudices. I have seldom found it difficult to say: "I am a Lutheran, I believe in Christ, I go to church, I believe the Bible is true", and have rarely come across anything other than friendly interest at such remarks.

Occasionally, it is true, there is the reaction: "Poor girl! she's mad, of course, but it won't do any harm to humour her", but I have never yet met with the violent scornful attitude that one might expect. In the theatre, religion isn't taboo as a subject for discussion; nonetheless, just say you believe the creation took place as recorded in Genesis, and no one will take you very seriously.

The Interpretation of Life in the Theatre

The theatre grapples with the problem of life. It is, naturally enough, full of conflicting ideas of what life should be. But without Christ, how can anyone know what life is, means, or should be? Christianity is here a key, a standard and a goal. It shows that however interesting, plausible and stimulating you may find "angry young men" like John Osborne or Samuel Beckett, they are to be distrusted. Their portrayal of life attempts to be real and, unfortunately, is often true, but their final interpretation warped and false.

Life to a Pattern

I find constantly that the Bible promise "All things work together for the good of them that love God" is being proved true in my own life. Things always do work to a pattern. In the theatre, the future is uncertain. Jobs seldom last long and are not always easy to find. But a child of God who walks through life holding the hand of his Father knows that whatever happens to him is from God and, in the end, will work out to his own good.

"All right on the night" isn't always true, but it takes off the edge of nervousness and tiredness to pray about a difficult show.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Miss Christina Lawton, Luther-Tyndale member, trained at Q Theatre, Kew Bridge, London from 1953-55. In 1955 she was stage director with a touring company that played at Llandudno, Cambridge, and Canterbury. From 1956-58 she was property mistress at Cambridge Arts Theatre participating in productions by the Marlow Society of Shakespeare's "As You Like It", "King John", and others.

KENTISH TOWN Personal letter followed by personal visit to fifty flats reveal fifteen interested adults and twenty-six children who do not attend Sunday School .. "We Discuss our Church" evening on 13 May when all communicants are invited to discuss every phase of the church's programme .. a "Suggestion Box" in the church will solicit the questions beforehand .. 212 attend Mission services on 19 April when Dr. H. A. Mayer, Prof. M. Naumann and Mr. George Luttmann were distinguished visitors ..... Ladies Guild plans outing to Blenheim Palace and Oxford on 12 May.

PETTS WOOD Bible Class continues to flourish even though parsonage has not enough chairs ... the Lutheran Hour "Bible Correspondence Course" makes an excellent basis for discussion .. after five months' trial, evening services dropped .. at Bromley two senior boys act as Sunday School teachers.

CAMBRIDGE Of the 68 who attended Easter service, 42 partook of Holy Communion .... 30 Lutheran Hymnals provided by Protestant Chapel Fund at USAF base at Lakenheath ... American servicemen contributing toward the new heating installation at St. Michaels, the growing fund being invested in the ELCE Church Extension Fund.

HARLOW Pastor Valentine Hennig and family will travel by air from Calgary to Montreal, arriving at Liverpool on 12 May by the "Empress of Britain".

CARDIFF Architect's model of proposed Lutheran Church to be exhibited at local building exhibition .. Dr. Mayer and Prof. Naumann, recent visitors, express delight with ½acre site at Fairwater where now a large sign, built by the pastor, announces: "This is the site of the future Lutheran Church of Fairwater".

RINGING CHRIST TO THE NATIONS

BROADCASTS
FOR **YOU**
R 1,100 STATIONS
50 COUNTRIES
25 LANGUAGES
O 20 MILLION
LISTENERS
EACH WEEK

THE WORLDS
LARGEST
REGULAR
BROADCAST

27,500 letters from listeners allover the British Isles and from every Christian denomination were received by THE LUTHERAN HOUR in 1958.

Read these excerpts and ask yourself:
WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP THE LUTHERAN HOUR?

/1/ WHAT YOUR CONGREGATION CAN DO

+ Put THE LUTHERAN HOUR into its regular budget
+ Set a Special LUTHERAN HOUR Sunday
+ Pray publicly and often for THE LUTHERAN HOUR

/2/ WHAT YOU CAN DO

+ Listen to THE LUTHERAN HOUR yourself
+ Encourage others to hear THE LUTHERAN HOUR
+ Write to THE LUTHERAN HOUR office in London
+ Give generously to LUTHERAN HOUR offerings
+ Make a Deed of Covenant to THE LUTHERAN HOUR
+ Pray, pray, and pray again for THE LUTHERAN HOUR

LISTEN : PRAY : GIVE

HIGH WYCOMBE

"sermons 'meaty', strong, full of life"

"I find these sermons so 'meaty', so strong, so full of life that I really treasure and keep them. As I am a postman I would ask you to send me extra supplies so that I may distribute them for you."

BIRMINGHAM

"the Bible God's own inspired Word"

"I do thank you for referring to the Bible as God's own inspired Word. It came as a further prop to my faith which, I am ashamed to say, had received a bad blow resulting from a Bible Study at our local church on the validity of Genesis. This, coupled with our own minister's views on the subject really shook me, but your letter has really helped me."

DEVON

"radio stations for sponsorship"

"Many thanks for your 1959 calendar. I am enclosing a cheque for £30 for the Lord's work and pray that He will use it in a wonderful way to the saving of many souls. May I ask you to send your list of radio stations for sponsorship?"

NORTHERN IRELAND

"a young listener to your programme"

"I am a young listener to your programme every Saturday night. One of our masters at school takes a recording of it and anyone who has not a wireless he plays it back to them. God's blessing."

EIRE

"despite official disapproval many listen"

"The majority of our neighbours are Roman Catholics but despite official disapproval many of them listen to your broadcasts."

BCTN

BRISTOL

"a student in training for the ministry"

"I am a student in training for the ministry and I want to thank you for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ so faithfully and clearly. Amid the many voices I hear on the radio of a religious nature, none are so true to the Biblical presentation of the message of Christ as yours."

YORKSHIRE

"cannot see what I have written

"I pray for you and for the good work you are doing, even by helping such as me. I live alone and am blind, so cannot see what I have written. Please send me the cross you offer and some readings in Braille each week. God bless you."

SHREWSBURY

"inspired by Dr. Hoffmann's method"

"I am especially inspired by Dr. Hoffmann's method of teaching by direct quotations from the Bible. Never does he make a point without giving an illuminating textual quotation to support that point."

SUSSEX

"the Bible from cover to cover"

"When in these dark days the Good Book is pulled to pieces and 'moderns' tell us much is not true, how refreshing to get believers who believe in the Bible from cover to cover. We do uphold you and yours in prayer that Almighty God would bless you."

LINCOLN

"have listened in for about 14 years"

"Please accept the enclosed £1 as a token of my appreciation of your life-giving messages on the Lutheran Hour. I am 77 years of age and have listened in for about 14 years. I would like to say

BCTN

how much my late husband enjoyed your messages, and it is to me a precious memory of our united enjoyment of real spiritual strength and comfort.

LANCASHIRE

"approach 'down to earth'"

"Your approach is far more 'down to earth' than that of the normal clergyman, and as such, to a layman like myself, far more useful and effective. I have used quite a number of the ideas you have put into my head when I have been speaking in my capacity as Honorary Lay Leader in our Parish Church. I am a headmaster. If you have any material suitable for school use, my staff would make full use of it.

NEWPORT, WALES

"when I come out"

"I am finding this second (Bible Correspondence) course more difficult but am persevering with it. Soon I will be out of prison, and when I come out, I will try my best to live up to what I have learned. Your lessons have taught me a lot about God, and I know now what I have missed. I hope to continue when I come out in about three weeks' time. Cheerio for now!"

GATESHEAD

"I belonged to a Lutheran family"

"Owing to rheumatism I am unable to walk far, so you will understand how much I look forward to and enjoy Dr. Hoffmann's sermons. I belonged to a Lutheran family and attended a Lutheran school and church in Cleveland. Now I am married in England and miss the church. May God bless you."

SURREY

"you have given my mother peace"

"Thank you because you have given my mother peace of mind. My father left home. Your messages help."

BCTN

BOREHAM WOOD Special thanks to the ladies who provided meals and teas for delegates and visitors to the 1959 Synod ... work on church grounds now underway should set off the new hall on a carpet of lush green grass .... confirmation class of four girls from Senior Youth Club begun.

SUNDERLAND "Kingdom Workers" organized to call upon families in new flats, inviting them to attend Lutheran film showings ..... going out in pairs, the workers will also follow up new prospects ..... Prof. Naumann guest speaker on 12 May .. other recent visitors: Drs. Mayer and Dorn, Mr. George Luttmann, New York layman, and family of Mr. James Taylor of South Ruislip who spoke on behalf of the Church Extension Fund ..... Church Outing to Holy Island (Lindesfarne) on 4 July.

HOLY TRINITY Founding members, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Krause, celebrate 65th wedding anniversary on 16 April ..... Good Friday showings of "The Unfinished Task" and "Gates of Glory" attract 90 ..... Mr. Peter Ahn, on holiday from colonial service in Ghana, lectures with slides to youth .. JEFFREY BRUCE WINGER born 10 March, 7lbs. 4 ozs.

GRINDON Junior "Confirmation-Club" begun to encourage children to more faithful attendance at catechism classes ... Mr. John Bulmer, marine engineer, donates gymnastics equipment to Senior Youth Club.

RUISLIP Third set of sketch drawings for new church considered and revised ..... Holy Week Film showing, sponsored by Luther League, on Tuesday, 24 March, attended by 75, of whom 50 at least were new contacts ..... new "Children's Hymnals" dedicated in special Palm Sunday "Child-Parent" Service which was attended by nearly as many parents as children ..... JAMES CHRISTOPHER RAKOW, born 21 March, baptized 12 April.

"The finest small Synod I have ever attended" was the way Prof. Martin Naumann of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A., described the Fifth Annual Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England held at St. Pauls Lutheran Church Hall, Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire, 17-18 April, 1959.

Twenty-five delegates representing congregations, missions and boards of the Church heard greetings from affiliated churches in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the United States, Germany, India and New

FIFTH

Guinea. Present at the Synod were two officials of the 2,300,000-member Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod: Dr. H. A. Mayer and Prof. Martin Naumann.

The opening sermon of the two-day convention was preached by Holy Trinity's Pastor Roger Winger. Lay delegates spoke the prayers which opened and closed each of the six business sessions. In the final Service of Thanksgiving, the preacher was the Rev. Norman Nagel of Cambridge.

SYNODICAL ESSAY In the 1959 Synodical Essay, "Why I am a Lutheran", Pastor Arnold Rakow of St. Andrews pointed out that birth into a Lutheran family could not be, and in the ELCE in most cases was not, in fact, the reason for being a Lutheran, but rather the firm conviction that the Lutheran church confesses the whole and pure Law and Gospel of the inspired Scriptures.

ELECTIONS Re-elected to the Executive Council for a further term of three years were the Rev. E. Geo. Pearce as Chairman and Mr. Charles Fry as Councillor. The interim appointments of Pastor A. Rakow to the Executive Council and of Pastor N. Heintz to the Church Extension Fund Committee were

ratified. Christ Lutheran Congregation of Petts Wood, Kent, was formally accepted into membership of the ELCE

REPORTS Treasurer Alfred Flemming reported £26,066 total disbursements, £25,701 total receipts in 1958. In his account of the 19 meetings of the Executive Council during 1958, Chairman E. Geo. Pearce spoke of the Springfield Seminary Choir Tour and the purchase of the ELCE headquarters building as memorable events of a year which ended

SYNOD

the first phase of ELCE expansion. He pointed to the five architects' models of projected churches on display at the Synod as symbolic of rapid development and of the new problems that faced the Council from 1959 onwards. Lay delegates gave 10-minute reports on each congregation and mission. A 20-minute survey of the foreign mission of the Church, illustrated with blackboard and with humour by Dr. H. A. Mayer, Secretary of Missions of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, was much appreciated by the delegates and visitors.

RESOLUTIONS Two far-reaching resolutions were passed. The Synod approved the establishment of a national ELCE women's organization and authorized an annual "synodical budget conference" to review the general financial situation of the church and to fix the annual ELCE budget.

1960 SYNOD The Synod accepted the invitation of St. Timothys to hold the 1960 convention in Sunderland.

The PROCEEDINGS of the 1959 SYNOD are in preparation and will be made available in booklet form to all congregations and missions.

LUTHER-TYNDALE PIONEER DIES IN GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Mr. Louis Frederick Launer, a pioneer of Lutheran congregations in London, died while at worship at Luther-Tyndale on Good Friday, 27 March, at the age of 83 years. A few minutes after the Confession of Sins and the Absolution in the service, he was called home. Mr. Launer was one of the five members admitted to the congregation at its first meeting on 5 December 1896. A faithful member since that time, he served for a period as elder. Successful in business, his one shop, opened in Holloway in 1903, flourished into a well-known multiple-shop baking concern in London's West End.

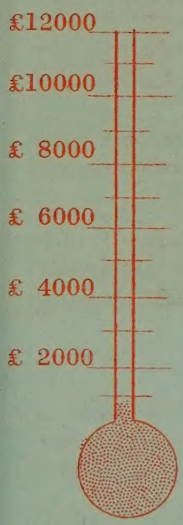
INTEREST DROPPED TO 3½% ON LOANS TO ELCE CHURCHES

From 1960, loans to ELCE congregations and missions for church building will be decreased from 4½% to 3½% while the repayment time will be decreased from 10 to 20 years, according to a decision taken by the meeting of the Executive Council on Wednesday, 1 April. At a further meeting on 14 April, the Council discussed with Dr. H.A. Mayer, Dr. O.Dorn, and Prof. M. Naumann the financial implications of Phase II of the ELCE development programme.

/MEMORIAL WREATHS/

In loving memory of Mr. LOUIS F. LAUNER of Luther-Tyndale, London, who died 27 March at 83 years: from Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Mull, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lawton, Misses Marie and Charlotte Lawton, Mr. G. Gutbrod and Family, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Smith and Grandma Smith, Miss Margaret Immig, Dr. and Mrs. Hillenbrand, total £9 for the Lutheran Hour; from Mr. and Mrs. L. Dickens, Mrs. G. Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. L. Launer, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lawton, Mr. J. G. Dunsbier, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Aichroth and Mrs. Aichroth Sr., The Rev. and Mrs. E. Geo. Pearce, Misses Marie and Charlotte Lawton, total £16.0.0. for the Church Extension Fund; from Mr.E. C. Lutz total £3 for the Student Aid Fund.

CHURCH EXTENSION FUND



LOANS AND DONATIONS
(Receipts to 31 March)

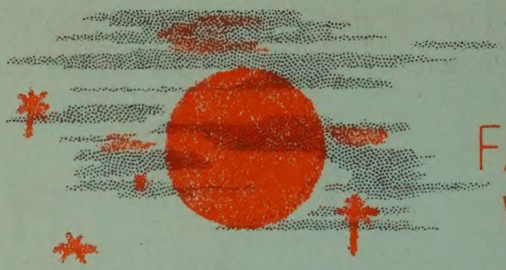
	Loans	Donations
KENTISH TOWN	£186	£ 26
TOTTENHAM	84	1
RUISLIP	162	5
SUNDERLAND	14	0
PETTS WOOD	8	54
BROMLEY	5	0
NOREHAM WOOD	0	5
GRINDON	18	3
CARDIFF	0	0
CAMBRIDGE	250	0
OTHERS	0	67
Totals	£727	£160
Grand Total		£887

AMERICAN PREACHERS AT LUTHER-TYNDALE RALLY

At a Mission Rally at Luther-Tyndale, London, on Sunday, 19 March, Dr. H. A. Mayer and Prof. Martin Naumann were the guest speakers. Prof. Naumann spoke of "the logic of Christian missions" at the 3 p.m. service, Dr. Mayer of personal evangelism in the informal evening rally programme. The new African mission in Ghana will receive the offering of £60.

ELCE REPRESENTATION AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Representatives of affiliated conservative Lutheran churches will meet in San Francisco, U.S.A., from 10-12 June at the invitation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. The Rev. E. Geo. Pearce will represent the ELCE. Pastor Pearce and his family will sail on the "Queen Elizabeth" on 21 May for a three-month furlough in Canada.



this is OUR FATHER'S WORLD

CAN THE GOD WHO RULES the vastness of the universe be concerned about me and my little problems and perplexities?

Can the God who conceived such an inconceivable vastness and who fills every inch that separates the planets - can HE be interested in ME? And can He help me?

Most assuredly, He can and He will!

Again and again, Christ points us to the hand of His Father in the individual lives of believers. "Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of."

Have you found this to be "your Father's world?" You will as soon as you have found the God of the Bible to be your Maker and Redeemer. Through Jesus Christ and His redeeming work, the God who made the atom, the God who spins the planets on their courses, has become your Father.

Through faith in Christ, and in no other way, are we privileged to become God's children and to learn that this is, indeed, OUR FATHER'S WORLD.

THE BRITISH LUTHERAN

May 1959 Vol. IV, No. 5

Published monthly in the interest of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England

The Rev. E. Geo. Pearce, Editor
13 Twyford Avenue London N. 2

PRICE : THREEPENCE